

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00
EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01
OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4125
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 21154

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS, GW
SUBJ: STRATEGY FOR INTERSESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON
LAW OF THE SEA

REF: STATE 298001

1. THE FRG HAS WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS TAKEN POSITIONS
ON LOS ISSUES THAT HAVE BEEN CLOSELY SUPPORTIVE OF
U.S. HOWEVER, AS SEEN FROM BONN, THE FRG STANCE HAS
OFTEN BEEN MORE PASSIVE THAN WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE,
BOTH IN THE LOS SESSIONS AND WITHIN THE EC. ON DEEP
SEABEDS MINING, THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY GENERALLY
ADVOCATES A HARD LINE REFLECTING THE INTERESTS OF THE
RELATIVELY STRONG AND COMPETITIVE GERMAN MINING
INDUSTRY. HOWEVER, THIS TOUGH LINE IS AT TIMES
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SOFTENED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WHICH HAS QUALMS
ABOUT FRG ISOLATION EITHER WITHIN THE EC OR THE LOS
FRAMEWORK.

2. IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE HANDS OF THE ECONOMICS
MINISTRY OFFICIALS WHO NORMALLY REPRESENT THE FRG

IN COMMITTEE I, WE RECOMMEND CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH THEM AS WE PREPARE FOR THE NEXT SESSION, ON TACTICS AS WELL AS ON SUBSTANCE. THESE OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WILL WANT TO KNOW, BEFORE TAKING A FIRM STANCE SUPPORTING THE U.S., WHETHER THE NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION WILL CONFIRM PROPOSALS PREVIOUSLY PUT FORTH BY THE U.S., SUCH AS THOSE ON FINANCING THE ENTERPRISE. THEY WILL ALSO BE MORE WILLING TO TAKE STRONGER POSITIONS IF THEY ARE MORE CONFIDENT THAT SUCH POSITIONS HAVE A CHANCE OF PREVAILING.

3. THESE WORKING-LEVEL CONSULTATIONS COULD BE BUTTRESSED BY REPRESENTATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY AS WELL AS TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE. IN ADDITION TO OFFICIAL CONTACTS, IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO SUGGEST TO THOSE U.S. MINING COMPANIES WHICH ARE PARTICIPATING WITH GERMAN FIRMS IN SEABEDS CONSORTIA THAT THEY CONSULT WITH THEIR GERMAN PARTNERS ABOUT ACCEPTABLE EXPLOITATION SYSTEMS, AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO LOBBY FOR STRONGER DEFENSE OF GERMAN INTERESTS BY THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY.
STOESSEL

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